

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS:

The attached sheet of drawings includes the addition of Fig. 6A and 6B to replace original Fig. 6. Fig. 6A corresponds to original Fig. 6. Fig. 6B is similar to original Fig. 6 but includes Z-shaped incision 10.

Attachment: Substitute Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 6, 2009. Claims 1 and 3-18 are pending in this application, with claims 1 and 6 being in independent form. By the present Amendment, claims 1, 3-14 and 17 have been amended and claim 2 has been canceled. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment.

The drawings were objected to because of a claim element allegedly missing from the claims. In response, and without conceding the propriety of this objection, the drawings and specification have been amended to attend to this matter. Withdrawal of the objection to the drawings is respectfully requested.

The Abstract was objected to because of a formal matter. Without conceding the propriety of this objection, the Abstract has been deleted and replaced with a new Abstract that is believed to be in proper form. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-14 were objected to because of informalities. Without conceding the propriety of this objection, the claims have been reviewed and amended to attend to these formal matters. Withdrawal of the objection to claims 1-14 is respectfully requested.

Claims 3, 4, 6, 13, 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as allegedly indefinite. Without conceding the propriety of these rejections, the claims have been reviewed and amended to attend to the points raised in the Office Action. Withdrawal of the rejection under Section 112, second paragraph, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 7-10, 12 and 18 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,701,664 to Ahm. Claims 3, 4, 13 and 14 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly obvious from Ahm in view of U.S. Patent 526,512 to Weber. Claims 5, 11, 15 and 16 were rejected under Section 103(a) as allegedly obvious from Ahm in view of U.S. Patent 6,460,473 to Onodera.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the indication that claims 2, 6 and 17 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including the limitations of the base claim and to attend to the Section 112 rejections and claim objections.

In response, and without conceding the propriety of the art rejections noted above, claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations from dependent claim 2 and claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form. In view of the present amendments and remarks, it is believed that independent claims 1 and 6 are now in allowable form.

Prompt reconsideration and allowance of the present application are respectfully requested.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.



Entry of this amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard F. Jaworski", written over a horizontal line.

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ANNOTATED SHEET

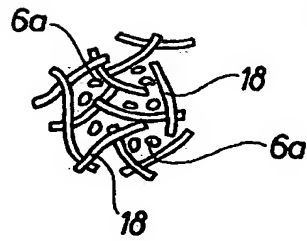


Fig. 3

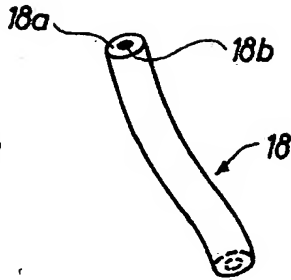


Fig. 4

*Original
Fig. 6*

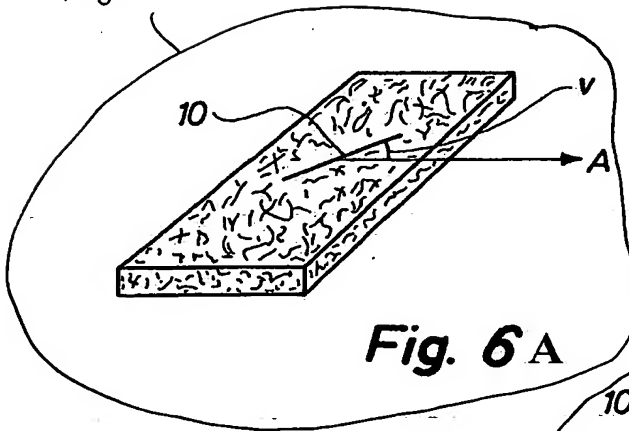


Fig. 6A

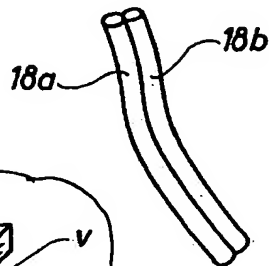


Fig. 5

New Fig. 6B

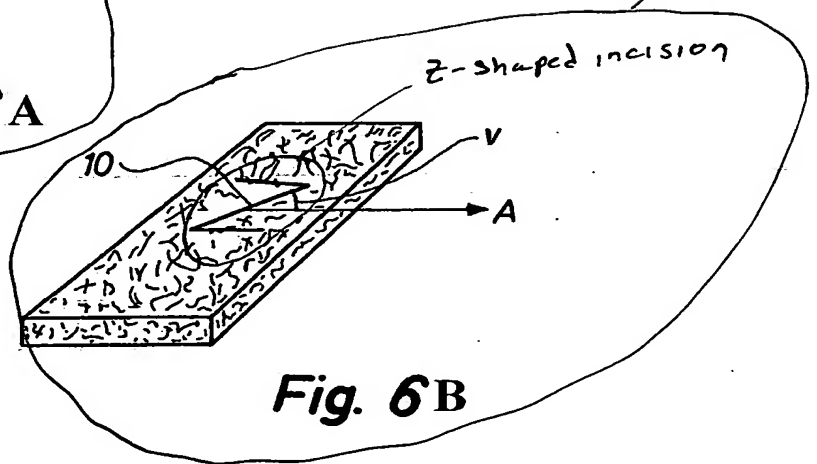


Fig. 6B